

Bell companies operate an "essential facility", and should have to accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. This wholesale provisioning will stimulate competition and be of benefit to the consumers. To not do so would cripple the '96 Telecom Act. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.

The backbone of our nation has always given opportunities for the average person, risk takers, and those who succeed & who fail to start from a grassroots position and create opportunity, jobs, and competition in the marketplace. PLEASE do not cut out the small guy in the ISP to accommodate these companies such as Bell who want to eliminate competition and have more control over the marketplace.

Thank you for hearing my voice.

Sincerely,

Peter L. Merring
Chandler, AZ